


**REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated November 12, 2003, the Examiner stated that claims 3, 4, and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 3, 4, and 14 so they are in independent form and include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, placing the claims in condition for allowance. Further, the Examiner stated that claims 5, 7-11 and 15-18 were in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this patent application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bing Wang, et al.

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Customer No.: 23492  
Telephone: (847) 938-7576  
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

  
Beth A. Vrioni  
Registration No. 39,869  
Attorney for Applicants